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HOMEMAKERS' CHAT

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION

(Release on receipt)

In 3th

SUBJECT: "Garden Report" ... Information from Victory Garden Headquarters of the United States Department of Agriculture.

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For months now...in a large part of the country...confirmed optimists have been saying it's fine weather for ducks. In other parts of the country...they could have said it's fine...for cactus plants. All of which adds up to a very low feeling indeed about the weather on the part of a lot of gardeners.

Reports coming in to Victory Garden Headquarters of the United States Department of Agriculture show that while the gardens in some states are equaling last year's production...and a few are surpassing even the 1943 record...the gardens in most states haven't yet produced as much as they had by this time last year.

The reports also show that the weather may have discouraged the best of gardeners, but it hasn't stopped many. For example...in one town where the season was very late, gardeners couldn't get their tomato plants in until the second week of June. Then...at the end of the week...a hail storm ruined almost every tomato plant that had been put out during the warm spell. But the gardeners started back to work immediately...and before nightfall of the next day...they'd cleared the dealers in their town and in neighboring towns completely out of tomato plants ...and replaced the ones killed by hail.

That's the tack gardeners everywhere are taking, too. If fall gardens measure up to prospects...they'll help make up for the time lost so far this year.

But the old saying about the best is none too good certainly goes in this case. The most food we can grow will be none too much. Because civilian supplies of commercially canned fruits and vegetables will be smaller than they were last year. There's still time to plant fall crops...and foresighted homemakers will be seeing to their gardens now.

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(7-18-45)

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